Settlement of dispute over Siachen Glacier area between India and Pakistan

2134. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any progress, to date, in the settlement of dispute over Siachen Glacier area between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if not, what factors are impeding settlement of the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Two rounds of talks have been held between the Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan and both sides have agreed to find a negotiated settlement of the issue in accordance with the Simla Agreement. It has also been agreed to meet again to continue the dialogue.

Modification of Electronics Policy

2135. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to modify the electronics policy; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the modifications being considered by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) At the moment there is no proposal to modify the basic principles of electronics policy. The main objective of Government in promoting the growth of electronics in the country is to increase productivity and efficiency in all key sectors of the national economy. In furtherance of this objective if any proposals are forthcoming which perhaps require some modification to the electronics policy, Government would not be averse to considering it.

Incidence of Leukaemia around Nuclear Power Plants

2136. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive survey regarding an increase in the incidence of leukaemia and other diseases in the vicinity of nuclear power plants has been made;

(b) if so, what has been the outcome thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that according to a UK Government's investigation report the incidence of leukaemia among children near the nuclear power plants was ten times above the national average; and

(d) if so, what action is proposed to be taken by Government in view of these findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Comprehensive surveys have been carried out on employees and family members who reside in the Departmental Colony outside the exclusion Zone.

(b) Based on these medical records it can be said that there is no indication of any increase in leukaemia and cancer in the vicinity of nuclear power plants.

(c) There are no reports of increase in leukaemia among children living near nuclear power plants in the United Kingdom. However, there are reports that around Sellafiled, a Plu-

tonium Reprocessing Plant for the UK Atomic Weapon Programme, there has been a slight increase in leukaemia among children. But these reports have not been substantiated.

(d) Does not arise as radiation level around our nuclear power stations are well below International, Standards.

US assistance in construction of new Air Strips in Pak-occupied Kashmir

2137. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the latest reports, Pakistan has been constructing three new air-strips, backed by powerful radar system in the Pak-occupied Kashmir;

(b) what are the names of these places and what is their distance from the Indian border;

(c) whether these are being built with the help of defence experts of the US; and

(d) if so, whether the issue was taken up with those countries; if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Muzaffarabad, Rawalkot and Mirpur. The distance of these airfields from the line of actual control is 30,40, and 30 kms. respctively.

(c) and (d) Government have no information in this regard. The question of taking up this matter with other countries, therefore, does not arise.

Per capita Consumption of Calories

2138. SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita consumption of calories in India; and

(b) what is the rate of increase in the intake of calories during each Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) As per 32nd round of Household Consumption Survey conducted by NSSO for the year 1977-78 the calories consumption in India is estimated at 2383 per capita per day.

(b) The information on the calorie consumption during different Five Year Plans are not available. The information is available for the years 1972-73 and 1977-78 in the reports of 27th round and 32nd round of Household Consumption Surveys of NSSO. Based on these the rate of increase in the intake of calorie is 1.7 per cent per annum i.e. from 2187 calories per capita per day in 1972-73 to 2383 calories per capita per day in 1977-78.

Subsidy granted for wheat and paddy

2139. SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total procurement of wheat and paddy for the last three years; and

(b) what was the ratio of subsidy granted for wheat and paddy for each year during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The total procurement of wheat and rice, including paddy in terms of rice, during the last three years is given below:—